



King County

Veterans and Human Services Levy Draft Service Improvement Plan (SIP) Public Comment Summary

1. Public Comment Period: August 17-September 7, 15 business days, 22 calendar days

2. Total visits to comment page: 1,373

3. Total number of comments received: 39

4. Notification methods:

1. Link on King County homepage (44,000 visits per day)
2. Emails to stakeholders listed below
3. Links on DCHS homepage and Veterans and Human Services Levy homepage

5. Comment Summary

Comment	Response
Ten comments expressed general support for the draft SIP.	N/A
Five comments suggested that better coordination and less duplication of veterans services is needed. Efforts should also be targeted to recently returning veterans to reach them before they are in a crisis.	Strengthened language in Strategy 1 directing all veterans activities to improve coordination
Eight comments supported the following specific activities included in the SIP: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing capital• 2-1-1 Community Information Line• Health care reform planning• Comprehensive veteran services• Early childhood interventions	N/A
Three health care agencies expressed concern about the reduction of funds for behavioral health integration for veterans.	This program has strong outcomes and is included in the SIP. However, the allocation amount was adjusted to be more proportional to the number of veterans served compared to non-veterans.
Four comments recommended increased allocations for specific activities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultural Navigator• PTSD Treatment	The Cultural Navigator allocation has now been increased to \$70,000 based on the current contract amount. No additional funds were available to increase other

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-1-1 Community Information Line 	activities.
<p>Five comments requested funding for new activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a smartphone application for veterans services • dedicated funds for Asian/Pacific Islander veterans • domestic violence prevention • legal assistance • juvenile justice prevention programs 	<p>Smartphone technology could be eligible for Activity 1.2B, veteran information and referral.</p> <p>The SIP allocates \$300,000 annually for outreach to women veterans and veterans of color.</p> <p>Domestic violence services are funded by other sources.</p> <p>The SIP allocates \$20,000 annually for veteran legal assistance.</p> <p>The levy seeks to prevent future juvenile justice involvement through early childhood interventions.</p>
<p>Five comments provided information about the importance of homeless outreach in South King County. These comments were received and incorporated during the review period by the King County Executive.</p>	<p>Partial funding (\$80,000) was restored for homeless outreach in South King County. The SIP directs this activity to closely coordinate with other outreach programs in the area.</p>
<p>Two comments asked clarifying questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What if the projected revenue is not collected? • What exactly will Activity 3.3 health care reform system design and implementation entail? 	<p>Based on the levy ordinance, the revenue will grow annually by the increase in the Consumer Price Index with a minimum of one percent and maximum of three percent. The SIP specifies a process for adjusting the allocation plan if necessary.</p> <p>Activity 3.3 is allocated funding beginning in 2013. Health care reform is an important issue for human services and an implementation plan with further detail will be developed prior to funds being committed.</p>
<p>One comment encouraged the county to provide comprehensive services for veterans, including women veterans.</p>	<p>The SIP funds a wide range of comprehensive services for veterans including outreach to women veterans. It also encourages continued collaboration with state, federal, and community partners.</p>
<p>One comment encouraged King County to provide services throughout the county and suggests that contracts should require agencies to serve people in need no matter where they live.</p>	<p>The SIP will continue to provide services throughout King County while also prioritizing areas and populations with the highest demonstrated need.</p>
<p>One city expressed that they believed the comment period was inadequate because it did not allow for their city council to review and comment.</p>	<p>This city has been contacted and encouraged to share their feedback. They will also have the opportunity to comment during the County Council review of the SIP.</p>

One agency encouraged the county to invest in cost-effective programs.	Many levy activities were chosen for their ability to reduce costs over the long-term.
One comment suggested that the two Levy Oversight Boards be combined into one.	The levy ordinance required a veterans board and human services board in order to ensure that the funds are evenly divided and that veterans funds serve veterans.
One agency provided information about their programs and did not directly comment on the SIP.	N/A

6. Notification recipients: Veterans, Housing, Human Services, and Health coalitions and agencies upon request

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| 1. Adult Justice Advisory Group | 21. King County Veterans Consortium |
| 2. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation | 22. Minority Executive Directors Coalition |
| 3. Catholic Community Services | 23. Neighborhood House |
| 4. Chinese Information and Service Center | 24. North Urban Human Services Alliance |
| 5. Church Council of Greater Seattle | 25. Northwest Justice Project |
| 6. Committee to End Homelessness Staff and Interagency Council | 26. Seattle Central Community College Vets Club |
| 7. Community Health Council | 27. Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness |
| 8. Compass Housing Alliance | 28. Seattle Office of Housing |
| 9. Crisis Clinic | 29. Senior Services |
| 10. Eastside Human Services Forum | 30. Supportive Housing Alliance for Veterans |
| 11. El Centro de la Raza | 31. Shoreline Community College Vets Club |
| 12. Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Oversight Committee | 32. SOAR |
| 13. Hopelink | 33. South King Council of Human Services |
| 14. Housing Development Consortium | 34. United Way of King County |
| 15. Human Services Planners | 35. Therapeutic Health Services |
| 16. Huskies United Military Veterans | 36. Washington Department of Veterans Affairs |
| 17. Kent Youth and Family Services | 37. Wellspring Family Services |
| 18. King County Alliance for Human Services | 38. Youth Eastside Services |
| 19. King County Coalition Against Domestic Violence | 39. YWCA |
| 20. King County Refugee Coalition | |

7. Comments received from:

1. Anonymous (3)
2. Ray Hardy, U.S. Veteran, Seattle
3. Debra Morrison, Neighborcare Health, Seattle
4. Candice Corey, King County Veterans' Program, Seattle

5. Roy A. Kauer 3rd, MS, Employment Security Department
6. Tom Schumacher, Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs PTSD Program Director, Olympia
7. Douglas D Hoople, Veterans Citizen Levy Oversight Board Chair, Bellevue
8. Judy Parsons, North Urban Human Services Alliance, Shoreline, WA
9. Alaric Bien, Chinese Information and Service Center, Seattle
10. Sara Levin, City of Seattle Human Services Department, Seattle
11. Lisa Yohalem, HealthPoint, Renton
12. Colleen Kelly for Eastside Human Services Forum, Redmond
13. Gloria Castro, Sea Mar Community Health Center, Burien
14. Evan Oakes, HealthPoint, Renton
15. Amy Besunder, North Helpline, Seattle
16. Nels Enquist, Seattle
17. Michael Schindler, Operation Military Family, Edmonds
18. Kelly Rider, Housing Development Consortium Seattle-King County, Seattle
19. Shary Bozied, Seattle
20. Mavae Redmond, Valley Cities Counseling & Consultation/Veterans Services, Federal Way
21. Laurie Eckardt, Catholic Housing Services, Seattle
22. Alfredo (Tito) Medina, M.A., El Centro de la Raza, Seattle
23. Teresita Batayola, International Community Health Services, Seattle
24. Janet S. Chance, Coordinated Community Against Domestic Violence, Auburn
25. Greg Vicars, City Vision, Federal Way
26. Lisa Conley, Child Care Resources, King County
27. Lauren Peach, Veterans Project, Northwest Justice Project, Seattle
28. Scott Swaim, Valley Cities, Federal Way
29. Keltie Wright, Healthy Start, Redmond
30. Julie Underwood, City of Shoreline
31. Hamdi Abdulle, Somali Youth and Family Club, Renton/Seattle
32. Anne Leee, TeamChild, Seattle
33. Eric Gonzalez Alfaro, Equal Justice Coalition, Seattle
34. Sharon Lee, Low Income Housing Institute, Seattle
35. Paula Steinke, Child Care Resources, Seattle
36. Jason Johnson, City of Kent
37. Katherin Johnson, City of Kent
38. Evie Boykan, City of Tukwila
39. Willa Gaines, City Vision, Federal Way